

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06080 191545Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 100211

R 191348Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4673

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6080

EXDIS

NEA/EGY PASS AMBASSADOR EILTS PLS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ENRG EG

SUBJECT: QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT

REF: STATE 178800, AUGUST 15, 1974

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED JUNE 11 FROM MINISTER  
OF ELECTRICITY SULTAN TO AMBASSADOR. TEXT FOLLOWS:  
QUOTE - YOUR EXCELLENCY,

DURING MY VISIT TO THE USA IN JUNE 1974 TO SIGN THE NUCLEAR  
ENRICHMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR OUR FIRST NUCLEAR POWER  
STATION, I SENT TWO LETTERS, THE FIRST ONE TO MR. ALFRED ATHERTON  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND SECOND ONE  
TO THE CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, I  
ENCLOSE HERewith A COPY OF EACH OF THESE LETTERS, IN WHICH  
ARE REQUESTED THAT THE USA GOVERNMENT WILL PARTICIPATE  
POSITIVELY REGARDING THE STUDY OF THE USE OF CLEAN NUCLEAR  
EXPLOSION FOR EXCAVATING THE REQUIRED CANAL BETWEEN  
THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND THE BRIM OF THE QATTARA  
DEPRESSION WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 70 KM LONG.

SINCE THE OFFICE SUPPORT OF THE USA IS SOUGHT, FOR THE  
EXECUTION OF THIS STUDY, I AM APPROACHING YOU IN ORDER THAT  
YOU WOULD CONTACT YOUR GOVERNMENT TO RENDER ALL POSSIBLE  
ASSISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE STUDY  
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AND REQUEST YOUR GOVERNMENT TO NOMINATE AN EXPERT IN THE

NUCLEAR FIELD AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ADVISERS OF THE  
QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT.

TRUSTING THAT YOU WILL GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR FULL  
CONSIDERATION AND OFFER US ALL THE POSSIBLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR THIS PROJECT.

VERY TRULY YOURS,  
AHMED SULTAN ISMAIL (SINGED)  
MINISTER FOR ELECTRIC POWER - UNQUOTE.

2. SUBJECT OF US PARTICIPATION IN QATTARA PROJECT HAS  
NOT ARISEN OFFICIALLY SINCE ACTIVITY DESCRIBED REFTEL. ON MAY 7,  
PRESIDENT SADAT REFOCUSED ATTENTION ON PROJECT BY INSTRUCTING  
THAT FEASIBILITY STUDY SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN EIGHTEEN  
MONTHS INSTEAD OF THREE YEARS, AS ORIGINALLY DECIDED. ON  
THAT OCCASION, HE DESCRIBED IT AS SECOND HIGHEST PRIORITY OF  
EGYPTIAN REVOLUTION AFTER HIGH DAM.

3. REQUEST DEPT PROVIDE INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE REPLY  
TO SULTAN'S LETTER.  
MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, QATTARA PROJECT, TRADE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CAIRO06080  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750214-0346  
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**ISecure:** 1  
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**Subject:** QATTARA DEPRESSION PROJECT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ENRG, EG  
**To:** STATE  
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